

1714



Patent
Docket No.: P01031US1A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Todd M. Baranek

Serial No.: 09/840,288

Filed: April 23, 2001

For: High Density Metal Oxide Fillers in
Rubber Compounds

Group Art Unit: 1714

Examiner: Paul R. Michl

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#4832
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Amendments and Remarks

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 23, 2002, Applicants submit remarks and request the following amendments:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9, 10 and 19.

Please amend claims 6, 12, 13, 18 and 20 as follows:

6. (Amended) A rubber compound, comprising:

at least one elastomer containing a natural or synthetic rubber, and
at least one high density metal oxide filler,

wherein the metal oxide filler is selected from the group consisting of $M_n(O)_{2n}$, $M_1(O)_{3n/2}$, $(M_1)_n(M_2)_n(O)_{2n}$, and combinations thereof, where M is a metal selected from Groups IVA, VA, IB, VIB, VIIB and VIIIB metals (with M_1 being different from M_2), O is oxygen, and n is the valence of the metal, and
wherein the metal oxide filler has a density of greater than 5.7 g/cm³.

12. (Amended) The rubber compound of Claim [10] 6 wherein the amount of metal oxide within the rubber compound ranges from about 5 to about 80 phr.

13. (Amended) The rubber compound of Claim [10] 6, wherein the high density metal oxide filler has a density of greater than about 8 g/cm³.

18. (Amended) A method of preparing the rubber compound of Claim 6, comprising the step of mixing at least one natural or synthetic rubber with at least one

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23 August 2002

Date

Signed

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